

We claim:

1. A process for treating contaminated water comprising:
filling a water tank with a predetermined amount of antimicrobial sand selected from the group consisting of silver compound coated, copper compound coated and quaternary ammonium salt coated and the mixture thereof and
introducing water through the antimicrobial sand acting as a filter.
2. The process of claim 1, wherein said quaternary ammonium salt is 3-(trimethoxysilyl)-propyldimethyloctadecyl ammonium chloride.
3. The process of claim 1, wherein said silver compound is silver nitrate.
4. The process of claim 1, wherein said copper compound is copper nitrate.
5. An antimicrobial filter comprising sand coated with a silver compound.
6. An antimicrobial filter comprising sand coated with a copper compound.
7. An antimicrobial filter comprising sand coated with 3-(trimethoxysilyl)-propyldimethyloctadecyl ammonium chloride.
8. The process of claim 1 further comprising:
introducing water to be treated through an inlet to the tank;
passing water downwardly through said sand and providing clean water at an outlet of the tank.
9. The process of claim 8 wherein water is introduced to the outlet,
passing upwardly through the filter and providing clean water at the inlet.
10. The filter of claim 7 wherein the concentration of the coating is monitored by bromophenol blue.
11. The process of claim 1, wherein the antimicrobial sand is encased in a

wire mesh case having mesh openings smaller than the size of the sand particles.